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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount equal to the net deficit in the annual account of the institution subject to a maximum of Rs. 1,920 per annum.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Has an institution that is getting grant from the Government the right to discriminate between one community and another in the matter of appointment of persons to that institution?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : A number of conditions have been imposed. They must maintain registers of accounts and they must be open for inspection. Patients should be admitted for treatment irrespective of caste or creed. The management should employ only registered medical practitioners. There are such other conditions also.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : In the matter of appointment?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : If any specific case is brought to my notice, I will look into it.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Has the attention of the Hon. Minister been drawn to the advertisement given by then Superintendent of the Hospital in the Dailies of Madras that Doctors and Nurses were needed for that hospital only from the Christian community?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I am not aware of it. If it is brought to my notice, I will look into it.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I, with your permission, handover a cutting of the advertisement to the Hon. Minister for perusal?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

(The hon. Member then handed over the cutting of the advertisement.)

Government Hospitals

* 320 *Q.*—SRI K. KAMALAKANNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the time-limit, if any, fixed for the visitors to see the patients in the Government Hospitals in the State?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Two hours from 4 to 6 p.m. daily.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : இந்த வைத்தியசாலைகளில் உள்ளே நுழைவதற்கு அனுமதிச் சீட்டுகள் வழங்கப்படுகின்றனவா ? அனைவரும் அனுமதிச்சீட்டுக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்தப்படுகிறார்களா ?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : சென்னைக்கு வெளியில் இருக்கும் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் சாதாரணமாகச் சாயங்காலம் போய்ப் பார்க்கலாம். அவசரமாக இருந்து பார்க்கவேண்டுமானால், வார்டு டாக்டர் பர்மிஷனில் போகலாம். சென்னையில் 'பாஸ்' கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அந்த 'பாஸ்' பிரகாரம் வரவேண்டுமென்று இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் நடைமுறையில் அப்படி இல்லாமலும் நடக்கிறது.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that on account of unrestricted number of visitors being allowed into the hospital during the visiting hours, the hospitals become overcrowded and the visitors smuggle into the hospital diet to people who are on specific diet authorized by the doctors?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : My information is, if at all diet is smuggled, it is not by the visitors. There are local people who do this. (Laughter.)

SRI K. KAMALAKANNAN : Does the Hon. Minister know that the visitors are undergoing great hardship because they are made to stand at the gate for hours together by the gate-keepers?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : If a pass is intended to be given and if the visitor produces the pass, he will be straightway admitted. But some people want to get in without having a pass. So, naturally there is bargaining there. (Laughter.) That may take some time.

SRI K. KAMALAKANNAN : Is there not any possible way of avoiding such bargaining?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, we constantly change the peons, because the peons take some time to develop that technique.

Buckingham Canal

* 321 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the annual maintenance charges for the upkeep of the Buckingham Canal;

(*b*) the annual collection of licence fees; and

(*c*) the number of encroachers on the banks of the canal and the steps taken for the removal of the encroachers within the State limits?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : (*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] showing the annual maintenance charges incurred on the upkeep of the Buckingham Canal from the years 1957–58 to 1960–61 and the licence fees collected during the same period is placed on the table of the House.

(*c*) There are nine encroachments on the banks on the canal within city limits. A list of encroachers has been prepared by Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and sent to the Collector of Madras for taking action to evict the slum dwellers at the appropriate time.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 391 infra.